



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

GASTROLITHS

IN a recent article entitled 'Gastroliths'¹ Dr. G. R. Wieland described some highly polished quartz pebbles, that I had shown to him, stating that they had been obtained in Colorado. This is an error. The pebbles came from the same locality as those obtained by him from Mr. Speers.² They were found in the Jurassic or Morrison formation of Montana near the Big Horn Mountains and were near, but not associated with, stegosauroid dinosaur bones. It is noteworthy that some of these jasper pebbles were dug from the clay in this polished condition, showing conclusively that they had been polished either before or during deposition. Others had been uncovered by erosion. Associated with the polished stones were many of less brilliant colors that were unpolished.

Mr. R. P. Whitfield informs me that he has seen quartz pebbles as highly polished as these at Spirit or Devil's Lake near Baraboo, Wis., which had been polished by the action of the wind. However, in a collection of wind-polished stones from New Jersey, preserved in the American Museum, all show faces and parallel angles that have been determined by the direction of the wind and position of the pebbles at different times. Some of these specimens are highly polished, but in no case showing the luster of the Montana specimens.

In the contents of chickens' gizzards I have found that pieces of glass subjected to its action for some time invariably have the edges rounded, while the faces are etched, entirely lacking the former polish. On the other hand, hard quartz pebbles found within the body cavity of a Moa show polish and considerable luster.

The unusually high polish of the Montana pebbles does not seem satisfactorily explained, either by the action of the wind or pressure of the clays. But, notwithstanding their proximity to scattered bones, there does not seem sufficient evidence to assume that these stones had been swallowed by dinosaurs as

¹ SCIENCE, N. S., Vol. XXV., No. 628, pp. 66-67, January 11, 1907.

² *Ibid.*, N. S., Vol. XXIII., No. 595, pp. 819-821, May 25, 1906.

were the stomach stones of Plesiosaurs.* There is, however, an example nearly as well established for the herbivorous dinosaur *Clasaurus* of the Laramie formation.

In 1900, while collecting fossils in Weston County, Wyoming, which is a continuation of the Converse County beds, I found a *Clasaurus* skeleton imbedded in a hard concretionary sandstone. In chipping off the surplus stone three rounded well-worn pebbles were found near the fore legs, embedded in the same matrix. These specimens were preserved and the occurrence made note of at once, for similar stones had not been seen anywhere in the deposit. These pebbles are rounded and vary in size, the largest measuring nearly three inches across. They resemble those found with plesiosaur remains and are polished to about the same degree.

It would be interesting to know what per cent. of acid is contained in the stomach of such birds as the Ostrich and Rhea.

BARNUM BROWN

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY,
February 1, 1907

SPECIAL ARTICLES

RECONNOISSANCE OF A RECENTLY DISCOVERED
QUATERNARY CAVE DEPOSIT NEAR AUBURN,
CALIFORNIA

IT was recently my good fortune to be sent by Professor J. C. Merriam to investigate a cave which had been brought to his notice through Dr. J. C. Hawver, of Auburn, California. Professor Merriam has since visited the cave and has kindly turned his notes over to me. In recognition of Dr. Hawver's vigorous prosecution of the work of cave exploration in this region we have named the cavern Hawver Cave in his honor.

Hawver Cave is situated about three miles due east of Auburn, Eldorado County, California. It is in one of several lenses of limestone in the Calaveras formation of that region. The trend of the lenses is north and south and the fissures in the limestone extend in the same direction. The entrance of the cave is on the top of the knoll a little south

^{*} *Ibid.*, N. S., Vol. XIX., No. 501, pp. 184-185, August 5, 1904.